

JAMES BELL—LEGAL REPRESENTATIVES OF.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 581.]

APRIL 6, 1860.

Mr. VANCE, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the memorial of Ralph Richardson, of Newark, New Jersey, executor, &c., report :

They have examined carefully all the evidence submitted in this case, together with various reports of former committees in both houses of Congress, and are fully satisfied that James Bell, late of Chambly, in the province of Lower Canada, did furnish supplies and render services, as claimed, to the American army under Generals Arnold and Montgomery during the invasion of Canada. Your committee deem it entirely unnecessary to embody in this report all the evidence in the case, or the substance of the various reports ; but are content to state that on the 30th of June, 1834, Congress passed " An act for the relief of James Bell," directing the accounting officers of the treasury to " settle the accounts of said Bell on equitable principles for moneys advanced," &c., with a proviso that the sum reported should not be allowed to exceed \$5,727 03, and disallowing interest. In obedience to this act, the officers of the treasury did settle the accounts of claimant, and found actually due him, from sufficient vouchers, the sum of \$6,056 34, which was reported to Congress. But as the proviso referred to prohibited the payment of more than \$5,727 03, the whole amount actually found due was of course never paid. Not deeming it proper to go behind this settlement at the Treasury Department, and deeming it nothing but justice that the claimants should receive the whole amount acknowledged to be due them, your committee report the following bill for the balance of the principal with interest from June 30, 1834, that being the date at which the account was audited and found due.

